GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1645
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2005
ASH CONTENT IN COAL
Chakrabortty Shri Swadesh;Dhanaraju Dr. K.;Pathak Shri Brajesh;Satheedevi Smt. P.;Seth Shri Lakshman Chandra

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the proven coal reserve in the country and the off-take level per annum;

(b) the percentage of ash content in Indian coal, grade-wise and the coal imported from different countries;

(c) whether high ash content in Indian coal leads to a huge solid waste disposal problem after it is burnt; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a): The proven coal reserves in the country as on 1.1.2005 are 92.96 Billion Tonnes. The total off-take of coal in the country in 2004-05 as per the coal statistics of Coal Controller`s Organisation was 378.50 Million Tonnes (provisional).

(b): The percentage of ash content in Indian coal, grade wise is as follows:-

Coking Coal:

Grade	Ash Content
Steel Grade-I	Not exceeding 15%
Steel Grade-II	Exceeding 15% but not exceeding 18%
Washery Grade-I	Exceeding 18% but not exceeding 21%
Washery Grade-II	Exceeding 21% but not exceeding 24%
Washery Grade-III	Exceeding 24% but not exceeding 28%
Washery Grade -IV	Exceeding 28% but not exceeding 35%

Non-Coking Coal:

Non-coking coal is graded on the basis of Useful Heat Value (UHV) which in turn is a function of ash and moisture content of coal. For a coal of 5% moisture content, the ash% of different grades are as follows :

Grade	ash%
A	Not exceeding 14.5
B	14.6 to 18. 8
C	18.9 to 23.6
D	23.7 to 29.0
E	29.1 to 35.0
F	35.1 to 42.0
G	42.1 to 50.0

The ash content in imported coal is generally less than 12%.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. It leads to a solid waste disposal problem after burning Indian non-coking coal because of its high ash content.

Following steps have been taken in this regard, such as:

Use of coal with ash content not exceeding 34% in the Thermal Power Stations located beyond 1000 Km. from pithead and in

specified areas has been made mandatory.

Cement industry, Brick manufacturing and other ash-based ancillary industries are being encouraged for utilisation of fly ash generated after burning of coal in power plants.

Coal India Limited and its consumers have set up few coal washeries for washing coal with ash content more than 34%. Coal India Limited is also encouraging its consumers to set up non-coking coal washeries. In this connection CIL offers land on lease and other infra-structural facilities like electricity and water during construction and railway siding, if available, on chargeable basis.